

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** December 8, 2005

**Inspector:** Brian Sakidovitch

**Location:** Norwalk Substation Expansion

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Very little significant precipitation has been recorded since the last inspection with 0.11" in the form of snow/freezing rain on 12/4 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The access roads on site are now paved. Portions of the yard adjacent to the GIS building remain porous. 12/8/05</li> <li>- The catch basin near the Route 7 ramp receives a lot of off-site stormwater, and erosion is occurring here. 12/8/05.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time. 12/8/05</li> <li>-The area should no longer be affected by any onsite sediment. The access road is paved and the swale is vegetated The silt fence should be removed. 12/1-12/8/05.</li> </ul>
Foundation construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Work continues on steel structures to the north and northwest of the yard between the retaining wall and the bike path.12/1-12/8/05</li> <li>- The topsoil stockpile remains in the adjacent yard area to the GIS building. Areas to the east of the building remain unpaved with a few stone piles in place. 12/8/05.</li> <li>- Work was no longer observed at the northern portion of the site near the ROW. 12/8/05</li> <li>-The 345kV turning structure work is complete. 12/8/05</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-None at this time. Observable progress was noted. 12/1-12/8/05.</li> <li>- The stockpiles are contained well within the yard. 12/8/05.</li> <li>- Continue to maintain erosion controls adjacent to the river here until stablized.12/8/05</li> <li>-We just need confirmation that all proposed grades were met here. 11/10-12/8/05.</li> </ul>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Erosion and Sediment Controls	- The catch basin at the southwest corner of the GIS building is now surrounded by pavement but we just need to confirm the basin was cleaned of sediment 12/01-12/8/05.	- Need to confirm whether the catch basin has been cleaned out. 12/1-12/8/05.
Erosion and Sediment Controls continued (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	<p>-The constructed overflow channel was working appropriately but as waters receded this week, additional piles of sediment that had accumulated here were observed. This was also noted in the natural overflow area. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- The topsoil and several stone stockpiles remains in the yard near the GIS building but are well contained. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- All access drive areas were paved, eliminating some potential sources of sediment. 12/1-12/8/05</p>	<p>- It should be confirmed that the channel is at original grades and whether the source of the sedimentation is project related. 12/8/05.</p> <p>- None at this time. 12/8/05</p> <p>- Monitor stormwater flow and drainage patterns on the pavement when possible. Watch for any erosive flows off site. 12/1-12/8/05</p>
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	-Water has been flowing clear in both the natural and constructed overflow channel, but additional small sediment/sand piles were noted here when the water receded. 12/8/05.	- Try to determine whether the loose sediment noted is project related. This may be natural deposition by the river. 12/8/05.
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- No species of concern are located in this area of construction.	- N/A
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	-No additional clearing is needed at this time. 12/8/05	- Clearing was limited to what is necessary and it will continue to be monitored. 12/8/05
Dewatering	-Dewatering was not observed during this inspection. 12/8/05.	-None at this time. 12/8/05.
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time and it is not anticipated to be necessary.	- None at this time.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Spills and Material Storage	- A few small oily drips were noted in the trap rock near the new structures. This was potentially from a dumpster truck temporarily on site. Affected stone was being addressed by contractors. 12/8/05.	<p>In general:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site.</li> <li>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel and all other material containers due to the sensitivity of the area.</li> <li>- Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li> <li>- Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling.</li> <li>- All fuels and agents not in use should be covered and stored in the sheds and trailers before leaving for the day.</li> </ul>
Additional Observations		

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for Brian Sakidovitch

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**Date:** December 8, 2005

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** Plumtree Substation Expansion, Bethel

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Very little significant precipitation has been recorded since the last inspection with 0.11" in the form of snow/freezing rain on 12/4 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads	- No new access roads have been constructed at this time but soil test borings had occurred on the driveway to the substation in previous weeks. 12/8/05	- Take care not to let accumulated soil from the borings enter the wetland swales adjacent to the driveway. 11/2-12/8/05
Foundation construction	-Any remaining work is mostly electrical and within the control house.12/8/05. -No further civil or earth disturbing work was noted on site at this time. 12/8/05.	- The areas are all contained at this time.12/8/05  - Open excavations were not observed at this time. 12/8/05.
Erosion and Sediment Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event)	- Although no silt fence is in place, the perimeter stone berm continues to work well to control the yard even with the significant rain. 12/8/05.	-All stockpiles are well-contained and the berm is working effectively at this time. 12/8/05.
	- The small remaining piles of sand/soil are not covered in plastic but are well within the site. 3/2-12/8/05 - A small stockpile remains adjacent to the slab but was well within the site. 12/8/05.	-Continue to monitor status and cover stockpiles with plastic if necessary. 3/2-12/8/05.
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	- Wetlands are located around the outskirts of the substation yard. The work within the substation yard has caused no observed sedimentation. 12/8/05.	- The stone berm around the perimeter of the yard continues to prevent sedimentation and water from leaving the site and getting to the wetland edge. 12/8/05.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	-The sand pile has been surrounded with safety fence but there seems to be little evidence of a valid nest at this point. 8/19-12/8/05. - The pile may be removed when necessary. 9/15-12/8/05.	- Everyone at the substation also remains aware and will move machinery carefully in case the individual turtle returns in the spring. The nest does not appear to be valid at this time. 12/8/05.
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	- No vegetation outside of the substation yard will need to be cleared during the expansion work.	- N/A
Dewatering	- Dewatering was not observed during the inspection. 12/8/05.	- None at this time. 12/8/05.
Blasting	- No blasting is occurring on site at this time.	- None at this time.
Spills and Material Storage	- No leaks or drips had been noted at the site at the time of inspection. 12/8/05.	- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers. - Keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site. Check equipment status on a regular basis. - Report spills to the office immediately, even if they are being controlled.
Additional Observations	- Following completion of a few future scheduled activities, this substation can be removed from the inspection route. 12/8/05.	

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for Don Ukers



Norwalk Substation: Both photos show views of the structures being installed adjacent to the bike path and retaining wall to the northwest of the GIS building. 12/8/05.



Overview of the yard adjacent to the GIS building which remains unpaved. 12/8/05.





View of the confluence of the river with the constructed overflow channel where sediment accumulation continues after each flooding/high water level event. 12/8/05.



Photo on the left shows the 345kV turning structure where some of the sediment may be washing from. Photo on the right shows Plumtree Substation where most substation related work here is complete. 12/8/05.